GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5034
ANSWERED ON:31.03.2017
Women Entrepreneur Council
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government intends to set up a Women Entrepreneurship Council;
(b) if so, the details and the present status thereof;
(c) the issues that the said council will deal with; and
(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure economic development of women?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ)

(a) Yes Madam, the Government intends to set up National Women Entrepreneurship Council (NWEC).

(b) & (c) National Women Entrepreneurship Council (NWEC) will promote entrepreneurship as it would be the umbrella organization for socio-economic gender parity, financial inclusion and economic empowerment of women in India. However, no final decision has been taken as yet.

(d) The existing online e-marketing portal, Mahila E-haat aims at tapping the potential of the women population as also for providing better avenue to markets for selling their products/services, thereby accelerating growth, providing opportunities and expanding India's reach domestically and also internationally. In addition to above, the Ministry of Women & Child Development is implementing following schemes to ensure economic development of women in the country:
i. Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) to ensure sustainable employment and income generation for marginalized and assets-less rural and urban poor women across the country;
ii. Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) to extend micro-finance services to bring about socio-economic uplift ent of poor women;
iii. National Mission for Empowerment of Women (NMEW) to strengthen the overall processes that promote all round development of Women;
iv. Scheme for Adolescent Girls-Sabla for all-round development of adolescent girl of 11-18 years by making them self-reliant by facilitating access to learning, health and nutrition;
v. Working Women Hostels for ensuring safe accommodation for women working away from their place of residence;
vi. Maternity Benefit Programme has been contributing towards better enabling environment by providing cash incentives for improved health and nutrition to pregnant and nursing mothers;
vii. Gender Budgeting has been adopted as a tool for mainstreaming gender perspective at various stages of planning, budgeting, implementation impact assessment and revisiting of policy / programme objectives and allocations;

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